

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A grass collecting apparatus for directing grass clippings cut by a mower unit to a grass catcher, the apparatus comprising:

a grass collecting duct for guiding the grass clippings from the mower unit to the grass catcher, the duct having an outlet portion leading to the grass catcher defined by an upper plate, right and left side plates and a bottom plate;

a gate-shaped frame disposed in a boundary between the outlet portion of the grass collecting duct and an opening of the grass catcher, the gate-shaped frame having an upper edge and a lower edge, wherein a first axis for swinging the grass catcher extends in association with the upper edge of the gate-shaped frame, and a second axis for tilting the bottom plate extends in association with the lower edge of the gate-shaped frame; and

a swing mechanism for swinging the grass catcher about the first axis between a grass collecting position with the opening of the grass catcher being opposed to the gate-shaped frame and a grass discharging position with the opening of the grass catcher being directed downward, the bottom plate being tilted about the second axis toward the gate-shaped frame when the grass catcher is swung about the first axis from the grass collecting position to the grass discharging position.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A grass collecting apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the swing mechanism further swings the bottom plate to be interlocked to swinging of the grass catcher from the grass collecting position to the grass discharging position.

APPROVED
TO ENTER
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